

DAILY REPORT

Sub-Saharan Africa

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DJIBOUTI

PRESIDENT RETURNS AFTER VISITS TO ARAB STATES

LD181242Y Djibouti Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] President Hassan Gouled Aptidon returned to Djibouti yesterday after visiting Oman and Bahrain.

During his 4-day stay in Oman, he held talks with Omani officials on the Arab and international situation, the situation in the Horn of Africa and bilateral relations.

President Aptidon discussed the same issues with the amir of Bahrain. It is assumed that the question of economic assistance to the Republic of Djibouti was also raised in Oman and Bahrain.

The president stopped in San'a' on his way to Muscat and met the YAR prime minister. On his way back, the president stopped in Jidda, where he held talks with Saudi officials.

PRESIDENT ACCEPTS AFAR MINISTERS' RESIGNATIONS

PA181650Y Paris AFP in English 1645 GMT 18 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Djibouti, Jan 18 (AFP)--Djibouti President Hassan Gouled has accepted the resignations of five ministers submitted last month, it was announced today.

He made his decision yesterday, exactly a month after Prime Minister Ahmed Dini and four other ministers of the Afar ethnic group said they wanted to quit.

They had accused authorities of victimising members of the minority Afar group in the wake of a grenade attack on a cafe which President Gouled blamed on the exclusively Afar People's Liberation Movement (MPL).

Only two Afar ministers now remain in the cabinet, the other portfolios being held by members of the majority Issa tribe.

Resigning Ministers Noted

LD181930Y Djibouti Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The Council of Ministers held its 26th session yesterday under the chairmanship of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon. The president spoke on his recent visit to Oman and Bahrain.

"Under presidential decrees 78/7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, and on 17 January 1978, his excellency the president of the republic and head of the government accepted, after due consideration, the resignations tendered by Ahmed Dini Ahmed, prime minister; Ahmed Hassan Ahmed, defense minister; Ahmed Yusuf Houmed, minister of public health and social affairs; Mohamed Houmed Ali, minister of industry; and Hamad Abdallah Hamad, minister of youth and sports."

ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA ELABORATES DENIAL OF INVASION PLAN

LD181634Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Mogadiscio allegation that the combined forces of Ethiopia, Cuba and the Soviet Union are poised to invade Somalia is a baseless lie aimed at deceiving world public opinion. This was disclosed by a spokesman for the Ministry of Information and National Guidance in Addis Ababa today. [as heard]

In an attempt to authenticate his paranoid lies, the minister of information of Somalia had the imagination and audacity to claim that Cuban and Soviet defense ministers are planning the invasion of Somalia. According to the Somali minister of information, Abdi Kassim Salad, the aim of the alleged invasion thrust is to occupy strategic areas of the Somali Democratic Republic. The spokesman said such absurd and baseless allegations could only be the outcome of a political paranoia the Somali ruling cliques are suffering from. The Mogadiscio ruling classes have been deafening the world with the claim that they are following the path of scientific socialism, the political system Ethiopia, Cuba and the Soviet Union are allegedly accused of trying to force on Somalia. Or is this a confession on the part of the Somali information minister that the ruling cliques in Somalia have abandoned even their claims to scientific socialism?

The spokesman added that the unwitting statement is quite revealing. If the Somali minister's statement reveals anything at all, it is the stark reality that internal contradictions inside Somalia itself have sharpened to the point of explosion. It is only these integral contradictions which will bring about a change in the political system in Somalia, and the ruling cliques there should have the blame only on themselves for the political bankruptcy and economic dislocation they have caused the country.

For the aggressor, which is still continuing its war of invasion inside Ethiopia, to cry at this hour of an imaginary planned invasion is nothing but an act of duplicity and a pretext for internationalizing the conflict behind the OAU.

The spokesman made it clear that Ethiopia has no territorial claims on any neighboring country, including Somalia. The spokesman said it is Somalia which has invaded Ethiopia in line with its expansionist policy and continues to entertain territorial claims on Djibouti and Kenya. As such, it is Somalia and not Ethiopia that is threatening the situation in the Horn of Africa. The world should note that Ethiopia is only trying to drive out the invading forces of Somalia from her territory. If, as the Mogadiscio regime wants the world to believe, the regular armed forces are not waging the war of invasion, why should the ruling classes there be so frantic? Or is it that the Mogadiscio ruling clique is swallowing the bitter truth at long last that the so-called Western Somali Liberation Front and the Somali regular forces are one and the same, just in the same way as it has admitted being a political [word indistinct].

AMBASSADOR DENIES SOVIET BOMBARDMENT OF MASSAWA

AU190909Y Rome ANSA in English 0840 GMT 19 Jan 78 AU

[Text] Rome, January 19 (ANSA)--Eritrean secessionist charges here that Soviet warships were bombarding the secessionists' positions at the Red Sea port of Massawa have received a categorical denial from the Ethiopian ambassador to Rome, Fitigu Tadesse.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, the diplomat also denied a series of claims advanced by Eritrean spokesmen here two days ago.

He said:

--The Ethiopian Air Force has not made napalm attacks in Eritrea.

--The extent of the Soviet airlift to Ethiopia has been exaggerated.

--The Ethiopians rather than the secessionists are still in control of most key towns in Eritrea.

The Rome spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea had claimed that three-quarters of Massawa was in the secessionists' hands, while the Eritrean capital of Asmara was besieged. But, according to the ambassador, Massawa, Asmara and "other key localities" were "solidly" in Ethiopian hands.

Tadesse added that the arms supplies from the Soviet Union were necessary in order to defend Ethiopian soil from Somalia's threats. In recent days, Somalia has asked for military aid from a group of Western countries to forestall alleged Ethiopian plans to invade its southern neighbour.

DELEGATE REPORTS SOMALIA CONDEMNED AT COTONOU

LD181828Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A two-man Ethiopian delegation, led by Comrade Capt Kassaye Aragaw, Provisional Administrative Military Council member assigned to Shawa region, returned home today after participating in the international liberation conference against mercenaries in Cotonou, Benin. The week-long conference was attended by more than 200 high-level delegations from all socialist and other progressive countries, led by top socialist and communist party officials in Europe, Africa and elsewhere. The conference strongly condemned imperialism, colonialism, racialism and mercenaries.

Comrade Captain Kassaye said that the meeting had agreed on a number of important issues, including noninterference in the internal affairs of others and respect for their unity and territorial integrity. He pointed out that Somalia was the only country which opposed these principles when the issue was discussed at the conference. He added that this gave ample proof that the masses of Ethiopia were the victims of Somalia's open armed aggression. He said that such Somali attitudes had led several delegations to take a clearcut stand in favor of Ethiopia's position regarding the conflict in the Horn of Africa. He also disclosed that the conference had condemned the [word indistinct] of reactionary ruling Arab classes in collusion with imperialism to aggravate the situation in the Horn of Africa.

KENYA

FORMER EAC MEMBERS APPOINT SWISS MEDIATOR

LD181846Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A Swiss diplomat, Dr (Victor Ombriev), has been selected by Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda as a mediator to help the three countries reach an agreement on how the assets and liabilities of the corporations and institutions previously operated by the defunct East African Community [EAC] should be shared. He will also recommend on issues concerning the future of the East African Development Bank.

Dr (Ombriev's) appointment was agreed upon during the recent negotiations in Washington last December between representatives of the three countries held under the auspices of the World Bank. The selection of Dr (Ombriev) was made public today by Kenya's minister for community affairs, Dr Robert Ouko.

Dr (Ombriev) has held numerous high level positions in international organizations and in the Swiss Government and diplomatic service. Since 1973 he has served as a personal representative of the UN secretary-general for special missions. He is currently assigned to act as the UN coordinator of international assistance to Indochina. He is expected to make a preliminary visit to the three countries during the coming month.

SEYCHELLES

PRESIDENT RENE MEETS WITH COMORAN DELEGATION

PA182054Y Paris AFP in English 2001 GMT 18 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Victoria, Jan 19 (AFP)--President France Albert Rene yesterday met with a four-member Comoran delegation led by Abder Ahman Sidi, which handed him a message from President Ali Soilih on ways to boost bilateral, political and economic ties.

In an interview with the Seychellese radio, Mr Sidi described his talks with President Rene as "cordial and frank" and said that they had reflected an identity of views by Moroni and Victoria. Last June, the two Indian Ocean island nations signed an agreement calling for joint projects in the fields of air cooperation, maritime transports and fisheries.

Mr Sidi said that these projects were still up for consideration and added that the Comoro Islands would most likely join the Seychelles at the upcoming conference of progressive forces of the Indian Ocean. He reiterated that the French-ruled island of Mayotte was an integral part of Comoran national territory.

The Comoran delegation, which also conferred with Tourism and Foreign Affairs Minister Guy Sinon, was due to leave here tomorrow with a reply of President Rene to President Soilih's message.

SOMALIA

WSLF STRESSES 'NO COMPROMISE OVER SOVEREIGNTY'

LD181840Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] today totally rejected the Russian demand that they should continue to suffer under the Abyssinian colonial autocratic rule. The official daily bulletin of the liberation front, DANAB, wrote today an article under the heading, No Compromise Over Sovereignty, and said the WSLF's motto is: No more colonialism. No one in the world can give us to colonialists as a gift as in the past. We had gotten disgusted with colonial life, the article declared. The bulletin warned the Russians not to decide things without the consent of the people of western Somalia and Eritrea who expressed their wishes a long time ago and had resorted to violence after all other peaceful means to regain their rights had failed.

PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE MAKES VISIT TO JORDAN

For reportage on the visit to Jordan which began on 17 January by President Mohamed Siad Barre, see the Jordan section of the Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT for 18 January and subsequent issues.

AMMAN AR-RA'Y INTERVIEWS MINISTER OF CULTURE

JN191003Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Jan 78 p 9 JN

[Text] Omar Arteh Ghalib, Somali minister of culture and higher education and senior adviser to President Mohamed Siad Barre, has declared that the question of the dispute currently taking place in the Horn of Africa was the subject of talks which took place between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre.

In an exclusive interview with AR-RA'Y yesterday evening, Omar Arteh Ghalib said that the results of the talks between the two leaders were very positive in regard to the dispute in the Horn of Africa, the fraternal relations between the two countries and the various questions of interest to the Arab homeland in general. He added that another round of talks will be held between the two leaders this morning before the Somali president leaves for Saudi Arabia and the YAR.

Ghalib praised the warm and cordial reception accorded to President Siad Barre and the delegation accompanying him in Jordan. He said: It is Jordan's custom to accord such receptions out of its solidarity with its Arab brethren and its participation in support of their causes.

Speaking about the dispute taking place in the Horn of Africa, Ghalib said: We cannot discuss in detail or disclose the various aspects of the dispute, because in Somalia we feel that our issue is balanced on a "tight rope." The struggle which is currently taking place is a fateful struggle between the Western Somalia Liberation Front and the Somali-Abo Front, and Ethiopia, which we regard as a colonialist country.

We do not differentiate between white or black colonialism. Because Ethiopia participated in the ill-omened Berlin conference which partitioned Africa in the 19th century, Ethiopia had its share in this partition. Since it used to be called Abyssinia, we regard Ethiopia to be false because it has falsified the facts it depends on to colonize Arab lands. The name Ethiopia is alien to Africa.

Ghalib explained that the war is not a dispute over borders and that there are no differences over borders. It is a war of fate, for the Somali revolutionaries regard the presence of Abyssinia in this area to be a colonialist presence. Abyssinia should have given up the lands it occupied by force, just as other colonialist states such as England, Italy and France did.

Ghalib said that the Somali revolutionaries have liberated 97 percent of the occupied territories. Under these circumstances, and because Abyssinia has failed in its confrontation of the fighters of the liberation fronts, it sought to cover up its failure--like any other colonialist state--by unleashing a wide-scale attack on the Somali Democratic Republic

Ghalib denounced the stands of the Soviet Union and Cuba toward the struggle taking place in the Horn of Africa. He affirmed that these two states support the Abyssinian ruling regime very strongly and supply it with enormous military aid, including mercenaries and heavy and sophisticated weapons. Such weapons are beyond the needs of a country like Abyssinia.

Ghalib said: Because of this and because of the plot we have recently discovered, we believe that the Abyssinian attack on Somalia has been aggressively planned and represents vile and dangerous ambitions and objectives. Moreover, this attack is against the interests and security of the littoral states of the Red Sea.

Ghalib pointed out that as one of its objectives the plot seeks to render an important service to Israel, since there is a traditional link of cooperation between Abyssinia and Israel. There are Israeli military experts serving in the Abyssinian army against the revolutionaries of the Somali liberation fronts.

Asked about the many liberation fronts in the area and the unity of their objectives, Ghalib said: There are several fronts fighting for one cause. What has been taken by force can only be regained by force. The revolutionaries in the liberation fronts are fighting for a just cause--the right to self-determination. There are the Western Somalia Liberation Front, the Somali-Abo Front, the Eritrean Liberation Front and the Afar front under the leadership of the revolutionary sultan, 'Ali Marah.

History has proven that every empire is destined to shrink and return to its normal size. Abyssinia was an inflated empire which expanded and occupied the lands of others by the force of arms. This was done with the assistance of the Western countries and the Russian czars in the 19th century. However, logic is on the side of the forces which seek the liberation of these lands and their restoration to their legitimate owners.

Asked about Somalia's role in the struggle taking place there, Ghalib said: Somalia performed its role on behalf of these movements from 1960 to 1975, with the aim of finding a peaceful solution for the problems of the citizens there, including self-determination. However, after Somalia despaired of accomplishing this noble goal by peaceful means, the revolutionaries assumed responsibility for their own cause. Therefore, the issue now is a war of liberation by the revolutionaries against a colonialist state fighting against this faithful struggle.

Ghalib expressed the belief that the revolutionaries in western Somalia, in Somali-Abo and in Eritrea will inevitably win victory regardless of the flow of heavy weapons to Abyssinia because their cause is righteous. The revolutionaries, with their high morale, cannot be undermined or conquered by arms or intimidation.

Ghalib warned that what is going on in the Horn of Africa threatens the entire area. He added: The aim of President Siad Barre's current Arab tour is to place the facts of this dangerous situation before the Arab leaders.

Ghalib affirmed that Somalia fully understands the dimensions of the current Middle East crisis and that it also realizes that what is going on in the Middle East is an extension of this dangerous crisis threatening the whole Arab nation.

Asked about the prospects of cooperation between Jordan and Somalia, Ghalib said: Jordan has expressed its readiness to support Somalia in all fields. He added: In my capacity as minister of education, I met with the Jordanian education minister, who expressed his ministry's readiness to support the educational sector in Somalia with all possible means.

In conclusion, Ghalib expressed hope for further Arab solidarity and mobilization in the current phase to cope with all the dangers facing the Arab nation.

CONGO

HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES MEETINGS

LD181618Y Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1215 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Comrade Frigyes Puja, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] and foreign minister, continued his stay with us today. This morning Comrade Puja had talks with Comrade Antoine Ndinga, our minister of national education.

We remind you that yesterday the head of the Hungarian diplomatic service had his first meeting with his Congolese counterpart, Comrade Theophile Obenga, shortly after laying a wreath at the Marien Ngouabi Memorial.

In the evening, Comrade Puja was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Congolese Government represented by Comrade Theophile Obenga, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Following are extracts from the toasts which they made at the time, first Comrade Theophile Obenga:

[Obenga--begin recording] Diplomatic, political, economic, cultural and scientific relations between our two countries, the people's republics of Congo and Hungary, enjoy an important framework built up by our two presidents.

Today you are our guest, Comrade Minister Puja, within the framework of the fraternal relations between our two countries and our two parties, the Congolese Labor Party and the MSZMP. Your visit to our country (?means) that the cooperation which exists formally between our two governments and parties must from now on be given fresh incentives, be made more dynamic and be rededicated to strengthening our friendship and militant solidarity. We believe that the agricultural and cultural fields (?could) be given a valuable new impetus in a reciprocally advantageous manner.

My country, in its turn, has immense potential in the agricultural, stock-raising and forestry fields. These represent many (?trump cards) for an active and mutually advantageous cooperation. [end recording]

The Hungarian foreign minister replied: [read by translator]

The events to which you have drawn our attention concerning cooperation between our two countries demonstrate admirably that this cooperation has not ceased to develop. The MSZMP and the Hungarian Government are ready to develop even more the relations between the two countries and parties, in your words, to (?give fresh impetus) to and make more dynamic [words indistinct] relations.

The analyses connected with important international questions are identical. On the other hand, concerning bilateral relations, there is a possibility for multilateral cooperation, for cooperation within the international sphere.

As for international issues, we mentioned them this morning, and we shall have several occasions to exchange views. We can see that we must concentrate all efforts against imperialism on three important international questions, in addition to the [word indistinct] the imperialist (?attack and counterattack). We think that our positions are identical concerning the three important international problems, namely the situation in southern Africa, the Middle East and in (?Ethiopia).

NIGERIA

LAGOS COMMENTS ON ANGOLAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT

LD181126Y Lagos International Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Text] President Agostinho Neto of Angola is now in Nigeria on a state visit. In a commentary (Baumi Pashauno) of our current affairs unit reviews relations between the two countries.

President Neto's administration is a government with which Nigeria has had a special relationship since the early days of Angola's independence. Angola attained autonomous status on 11 November 1975 in a peculiar way in that Portugal never handed over power to any political party or leader, but in a nebulous manner Portugal granted authority to the people of Angola. In this way the Portuguese left it to three liberation movements in Angola to fight it out among themselves.

Initially, the attitude of Nigeria was not to support any of the parties but to find a compromise solution. The present administration changed its attitude and decided to recognize and support Dr Neto's Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, when it became certain that apartheid South Africa was helping the other liberation movements. These were the National Front for the Liberation of Angola, FNLA, and the United Party for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA.

Once the federal government decided to support Dr Neto's party it went all out to do so. This included a gift of 13.5 million naira given to the MPLA to fight its opponents and their imperialist backers. At the diplomatic level, Nigeria spearheaded the cause of the MPLA and the OAU. Nigeria did not stop there. She invited the prime minister of Angola to visit this country and discuss the areas of cooperation between the two countries with the federal government. The present Nigerian head of state, Lt Gen Olusegun Obasanjo, who was then chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, also visited Angola to convey the good wishes of the government and people of Nigeria, and also to assess the situation there.

The importance of Nigeria's support for Dr Neto lay in the fact that she was the first African country to come out boldly in support of the MPLA. With the risk that this support could backfire, the attitude of the federal government to Dr Neto was that of a friend indeed, especially as it was barely 6 months in office then and, as fate would have it, the support for MPLA marked a turning point and one in which the world recognized Nigeria as a dynamic champion of the liberation struggle in Africa.

It is against this background that one should see the importance of the current 5-day visit of President Agostinho Neto of Angola to Nigeria. It is not the first time Dr Neto is coming to this country. He has been here on two other occasions. The current one, however, is his first state visit. The visit is significant not only because it will go a long way to cement the relations between Nigeria and Angola but also because it accords Dr Neto the opportunity of learning more about Nigeria from his tour in Borno and Bauchi states. In recognition of his outstanding leadership and contribution to the liberation of Angola from colonial exploiters, he will be conferred with an honorary degree at the University of Lagos on Thursday. Very few African leaders have been so honored by Nigerian universities.

As one of the frontline states, Angola, like Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana, is actively involved in the liberation of southern Africa--a struggle in which Nigeria is playing an elected role. It is therefore logical for the two countries to meet and exchange ideas.

The Zambian leader, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and the Mozambique head of state, Dr Samora Machel, have visited Nigeria to discuss the problem in southern Africa with the federal government. If the situation requires military personnel, there is no reason why African countries should not offer the frontline states troops, bearing in mind what Cuba did for Angola, but for now military aid could be limited to the supply of war planes and ammunition.

One thing, however, is certain, and that is that Angola has at least achieved a competent and stable government under the leadership of Dr Agostinho Neto. This position can only be maintained and improved upon if Nigeria, and indeed all independent African states, rally round her.

Neto Attends Dinner

LD190934Y Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Nigeria regards the Republic of Angola as the potential springboard of the liberation of Namibia and for the liquidation of all the traces of colonialism from the African continent. This was stated in Lagos last night by the head of state, Lt Gen Olusegun Obasanjo, at a state banquet in honor of the president of Angola, Dr Agostinho Neto.

General Obasanjo said that the role was imposed on Angola by her location in the continent. He said that history had proved that with dynamic and dedicated leadership the sky was the limit to what a nation could attain.

The head of state expressed satisfaction with the contribution made by Angola toward the liberation struggles in southern Africa, adding that Nigeria would remain devoted to the cause. He said that the unusually difficult circumstances in which Angola attained her independence were still fresh in the minds of Nigerians.

Replying, President Neto expressed appreciation for Nigeria's help toward the political emancipation of Angola. He said that the various development projects being undertaken by Nigeria should provide a wealth of experience for Angola.

Dr Neto, who is accompanied by his wife, leaves Lagos for home today.

SENEGAL

NCNA: PRIME MINISTER DIOUF CONDEMNS HEGEMONISM

OW181650Y Peking NCNA in English 1558 GMT 18 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Dakar, January 17, 1978 (HSINHUA)--Senegalese Prime Minister Abdou Diouf said here today: "This world is torn by the conflicts of hegemonism and is reigned over by big nations to the detriment of the weaker nations."

The prime minister was presiding over the opening ceremony of the fourth session of the Ministerial Conference of the West and Central African countries on Maritime Transport. The conference, attended by 16 African countries, centred its discussion on regional cooperation in maritime transport.

Prime Minister Diouf said: "We are all animated by the common aspirations for progress, for the economic and social development of our respective countries in the present world." He pointed out: "The absence of control over international trade and in particular over the transport price of imports and exports constitutes a decisive factor of the unequal exchange between the developed and developing countries."

He pointed out that maritime transport has become an essential element of the new world economic order. "Africa, and in particular our region, should put into practice the maritime transport development plan because over 90 per cent of our trade is handled by maritime transport," he added. The Senegalese prime minister pointed out that Senegal is always committed to promoting and supporting all forms of regional and sub-regional cooperation with its partners in this important field as well as in all other fields which are beneficial to our common development.

He added: "This cooperation, an expression of our common political will, is surely the only effective means enabling us to unite for the realization of our common objectives in the field of maritime transport."

The conference is to be concluded on January 20.

ANGOLA

ENVOY PRAISES USSR, CUBA, CLAIMS NONALINEMENT

LD181341Y Brussels LE SOIR in French 14 Jan 78 p 3 LD

['C.B.' report on undated Brussels press conference given by Angolan ambassador to Belgium Luis de Almeida: "Even Though Aided by Cubans We Are Nonaligned"]

[Excerpts] "Angola has a very bad press in West Europe; the public is not sufficiently well-informed about our achievements and our vision of the world. We still lack cadres, but we thought that it would be a good thing to open a certain number of embassies to-- in fact--provide information."

This is how Mr Luis de Almeida, first ambassador of the People's Republic of Angola, explained the reason for his presence in Brussels in the statement he delivered at the beginning of a press conference. Belgium, Italy and Yugoslavia have been chosen as bridgeheads for relations with some European countries.

As would be expected, Mr de Almeida had to devote much time to his country's domestic situation. He emphasized that the Angolan National Liberation Front [FNLA] and the national Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] were guilty of treason because they brought (Zairian and South African) invasion troops into the country. He absolutely denied that any guerrilla activities are pursued in the country's northern and southern regions, adding that it was merely a question of infiltration by armed bands which would end automatically if they were not supported by neighboring countries. Asked about the role played by the Cubans in his country, he paid tribute to their action: "They intervened," he stated, "at the request of the Angolan government at a time when the country was subjected to foreign invasion and when a veritable South African armada was making its way toward Luanda without any reaction on the part of other African countries."

"So that we could resist, the Soviets provided us with the tanks and guns which we did not possess and the Cubans sent us men. We are proud of this aid. We believe that is on account of it that we are now a sovereign country."

"At present, the Cubans are helping us deal with fresh attacks. They are teaching us to handle the most sophisticated weapons and, thanks to them, we are forming one of the most powerful armies in Africa. The Cubans are also helping us to reconstruct our country, to insure adequate health facilities for the population and to rebuild roads and bridges. It is an exemplary form of cooperation, made even easier by the language."

Mr de Almeida also stressed that the principle of nonalignment is one of the fundamental elements in Angola's foreign policy. With regard to events in Shaba, he declared that they concerned Zaire's internal problems but that since then Angola has had to meet the needs of some 250,000 refugees who have fled the repression.

As for foreign investments, Mr de Almeida recalled that "the sector under state control is a very large one since the Portuguese abandoned everything. But," he added, "many foreign companies invest in our country, particularly Gulf, Texaco, Petrofina and the Societe Generale. We ask them above all to respect the interests of the Angolan people. We prefer, however, to set up mixed associations, such as Diamang--the Angolan state holds 61 percent of the shares and the rest is in the hands of foreign companies."

HAVANA: ANGOLA TO NATIONALIZE BANKING SECTOR

FL181610Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1222 GMT 18 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The Angolan Prime Minister, Lopo do Nascimento, has announced during the swearing in ceremony of the new governor of Luanda's National Bank that the country will advance toward the full nationalization of the banking sector. He stressed that during this year the People's Republic of Angola will apply a greater control over the outgoing movement of currency as part of an austerity plan which will make the utilization of all national resources and the development of the economy possible.

SWAPO LEADER SAM NUJOMA ARRIVES IN LUANDA

LD191202Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO], arrived in Luanda early this afternoon from the GDR capital, Berlin.

The situation in Namibia is very critical, as the South African racists and colonialists continue to do everything to maintain their system of oppression and exploitation, the nationalist leader told the news media after his arrival at Belas International Airport.

President Nujoma said that his visit is designed to inform Comrade President Agostinho Neto, the MPLA-Labor Party and our republic's government of the latest developments in the Namibia problem, from both the international aspect and the situation inside the territory. Stressing that the guerrilla struggle will be intensified, Sam Nujoma (?added) that the talks which he has just held with various socialist leaders, namely of the USSR, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia, were immensely fruitful.

MOZAMBIQUE

MOZAMBIQUE, GDR SIGN COOPERATION PROTOCOL

LD191210Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Government delegations from Mozambique and the GDR signed a protocol on technical and scientific cooperation in Maputo this afternoon. The protocol covers the years 1978 and 1979 and deals with the short-term and long-term posting of technical experts from the GDR in Mozambique and the sending of Mozambique cadres to the GDR. It also provides for cooperation in industry, home and foreign trade, transport, central state organs and professional training.

The two delegations were headed by Joaquim [name indistinct], director of planning at the Mozambique Ministry of Development and Economic Planning, and (Gunther Maltz), director of cooperation at the GDR Foreign Ministry, respectively.

TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN MAPUTO

LD191142Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Benjamin Mkapa, the Tanzanian foreign minister, arrived in Maputo yesterday with a message from President Julius Nyerere for the Mozambique head of state, Samora Machel. On his arrival at Mavalane Airport, Benjamin Mkapa was received by our foreign minister, Joaquim Laberto Chissano.

PATRIOTIC FRONT TO RESUME TALKS WITH BRITAIN

TA191214Y Paris AFP in English 1128 GMT 19 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Maputo, Jan 19 (AFP)--The Rhodesian Nationalist Patriotic Front has agreed to resume talks with Britain and suggested meeting Foreign Secretary David Owen on Jan 26 in Malta, it was announced here.

The front announced its decision here today at the end of a four-day summit of co-leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, together with their main collaborators.

At a press conference, the front also said the two exiled nationalist leaders had discussed "a programme of consolidating the unity of the Patriotic Front" and a "further intensification of the armed liberation struggles."

The front summit meeting here, the third in six weeks, came after a renewed invitation by the British foreign secretary to Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe to talks aimed at putting an end to the five-year-old Rhodesian war within the framework of the Anglo-American settlement proposals.

RHODESIA

FORCES REPORT ATTACKS FROM MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA

LD191114Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/CA

[Text] Combined Operations Headquarters reports the death in action of Pvt (Zland Elliott) of Bulawayo who was aged 21, single and was educated at Mzilikazi school.

The murder by terrorists at 1750 on 17 January is also reported of Mr (Richard Wallace Williams) of Selborne Estate, Inyanga District, who was aged 52 and married with adult children. Next of kin have been informed. Prior to his death, Mr (Williams) killed one of the terrorist gang involved in his murder. Terrorists have killed four tribesmen, who were shot, and one tribeswoman, whom they accused of having been a witch.

During the past 24 hours, security forces have killed eight terrorists.

On the morning of 17 January elements of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique fired on a fencing team of the Tsetse control of the Ministry of Agriculture from Mozambique in the Chipinga District. Security forces returned the fire. The same day Vila Salazar was subjected to ineffective mortar, rocket and small arms fire from Mozambique on two separate occasions.

On 16 January a security force boat was fired on from Zambia, west of the Victoria Falls. Fire was returned. There were no casualties and no damage was caused in any of these incidents.

On the afternoon of 18 January elements of the Zambian Army opened fire with machineguns and mortars on the security force base at Kazungula. There were no casualties and fire was returned.

Two black women have died and ten other black civilians, including two children, have been hurt in a terrorist landmine blast. The incident took place on Monday in the prosperous Dowa African purchase area about 50 kms west of Rusape.

The dead women have been named as (Sophia Sidodo) and (Tabatha Mataba). The passengers in the half-ton civilian pickup truck included a schoolmaster, Mr (Arthur Chavunduka), the brother of the black nationalist Mr (Gordon Chavunduka). He was hurt in the legs.

Later today security forces were still involved in follow-up operations in the area of the incident. At the scene of the incident today one member of the security forces said there were bits of bodies up to 200 meters away from where the landmine was detonated.

ZAMBIA

TANZANIAN REPLY ON SURCHARGE FOUND ENCOURAGING

LD191120Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD/CA

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mainza Chona, yesterday received a reply to the message he sent to his counterpart, the Tanzanian prime minister, Mr Edward Sokoine, concerning the statement issued by the Tanzanian minister of communications and transport on the proposed high storage charges to be imposed on Zambian cargo coming through the port of Dar es Salaam. Mr Chona is now happy to report that his counterpart in Tanzania has given him a very encouraging reply.

Mr Sokoine has assured Mr Chona not to worry about the statement which was issued by Mr Amir Jamal. What Mr Jamal stated at the press conference were in fact proposals that the Tanzanian Government was going to submit to the Zambian Government and that these proposals are subject to negotiations.

Mr Sokoine emphasized in the message to Mr Chona that the main worry of Tanzania was that of inadequate transport to transport Zambian goods from the port of Dar es Salaam. This concern is very much shared by Mr Chona, and as a result effective measures are being taken to mobilize adequate transport.

For the Zambian end, the prime minister [was] also very much encouraged to note that a lot of railway wagons and road trucks are being made available for loading copper (?and maize) destined for Dar es Salaam. Mr Chona would like to see this mobilization exercise be further stepped up so that within 30 days there should be no pileup of copper exports in Zambia, as well as Zambian imports at Dar es Salaam port. The prime minister has no doubts that these efforts will bear fruit and has called upon Zambian importers and exporters and Dar es Salaam port workers to make sure that railway wagons and road trucks are expeditiously loaded and off-loaded.

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